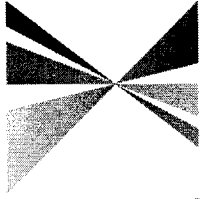


SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



**ASSOCIATION OF  
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559-5/17/05

## MEETING OF THE

# TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, May 24, 2005  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

## SCAG Offices

**818 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Riverside A Conference Room  
Los Angeles, California 90017  
213. 236.1800**

## Agenda Attached

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Ted Harris at 213.236.1916 or [harrist@scag.ca.gov](mailto:harrist@scag.ca.gov).

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. If you require such assistance, please contact SCAG at (213) 236-1868 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to enable SCAG to make reasonable arrangements. To request documents related to this document in an alternative format, please contact (213) 236-1868.

# TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION

## AGENDA

		PAGE #	TIME
1.0	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>	Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG	
2.0	<u>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</u>	Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG	
3.0	<u>PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD</u> Members of the public desiring to speak on an agenda item or items not on the agenda, but within the purview of this committee, must fill out a speaker's card prior to speaking and submit it to the Staff Assistant. A speaker's card must be turned in before the meeting is called to order. Comments will be limited to three minutes.		
4.0	<u>CHAIR'S REPORT</u>	Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG	
5.0	<u>ACTION ITEMS</u>		
5.1	<u>Approval of the April 26, 2005 Meeting Summary Attachment</u>	Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG	1
6.0	<u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>		
6.1	<u>RTIP Update</u>	Rosemary Ayala, SCAG	10 minutes
6.2	<u>RTP Update</u>	Naresh Amatya, SCAG	10 minutes
6.3	<u>Statewide Transportation Conformity Overview</u>	Mike Brady, Caltrans	10 minutes
6.4	<u>PM 2.5 Guidance Update</u>	Dave Jesson, EPA	10 minutes



# TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION **AGENDA**

		PAGE #	TIME
<b>6.0</b>	<b><u>INFORMATION ITEMS CONT/D</u></b>		
6.5	<u>2007 AQMP Update</u>	Kathryn Higgins, SCAQMD	5 minutes
6.6	<u>Reauthorization Update</u>	Jean Mazur, FHWA	10 minutes
6.7	<u>NEPA Conference Overview</u>	Ty Schuiling, SANBAG	10 minutes
6.8	<u>8-Hour Ozone Conformity Attachment</u>	Ted Harris, SCAG	5 10 minutes
6.9	<u>TCM Update</u>	Ted Harris/ Mike Gainor SCAG	15 minutes
6.10	<u>Information Sharing</u>	Group Discussion	

## **7.0**    **ADJOURNMENT**                      Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, 2005 at SCAG offices.

Please provide 30 copies of materials you would like to distribute at the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Ted Harris at (213) 236-1916 or [harrist@scag.ca.gov](mailto:harrist@scag.ca.gov).

**If you would like to attend by conference call, please notify Cathy Alvarado at (213) 236-1896 or e-mail [alvarado@scag.ca.gov](mailto:alvarado@scag.ca.gov) by Friday, May 20, 2005.**

# **Transportation Conformity Working Group**

## **Interagency Consultation**

### **Meeting Summary**

**Tuesday, April, 26, 2005**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Southern California Association of Governments**  
**818 W 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90017**  
**Riverside 'A' Conference Room**

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The Transportation Conformity Working Group (TCWG) held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at SCAG's downtown offices. The following summary is intended to summarize the matters discussed. An audio recording of the entire meeting is available for review at SCAG's office.

#### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at about 10:00 AM by Chair Ty Schuiling, SANBAG.

#### **2.0 WELCOME AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

##### **ATTENDANCE:**

**In Person:**      Rosemary Ayala, SCAG  
                         Sandra Balmir, FHWA/FTA  
                         Herman Cheng, MTA  
                         Mike Gainor, SCAG  
                         Ashad Hamideh, MTA  
                         Ted Harris, SCAG  
                         Doug Kim, MTA  
                         Nancy Marroquin, MTA  
                         Jean Mazur, FHWA  
                         Christopher Patton, City of LA  
                         Ty Schuiling, SANBAG  
                         Arnie Sherwood, ITS/UCB  
                         Tahirih Smith, Caltrans  
                         Carla Walecka, TCA  
                         Andy Woods, Caltrans District 7  
                         Sina Zarifi, SCAG

##### **Via Teleconference:**

Jennifer Bergener, OCTA  
Mike Brady, Caltrans  
Paul Fagan, Caltrans District 8  
Cathy Gomes, Caltrans  
Sandy Johnson, Caltrans District 11  
Karina O'Connor, EPA  
Chuck Thomas, VCTC  
Dennis Wade, CARB

### **3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

### **5.0 ACTION ITEMS**

#### **5.1 Approval of the February 22, 2005 Meeting Summary**

Approved Unanimously.

### **6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **6.1 2004 RTIP Update (Rosemary Ayala, SCAG)**

Rosemary Ayala (SCAG) presented an update on the 2004 RTIP, reporting that Amendment #6, the STIP reconciliation amendment, was approved by FTA and FHWA on April 4, 2005. SCAG staff are processing Amendment #7, which will be transmitted to the federal approval agencies on May 9, 2005. The County Transportation Commissions are working on Amendment #8, which will consist primarily of FTA 5307 transit projects.

Ms Ayala provided a report describing the RTIP Expedited Project Selection Procedures that will be submitted to the Transportation and Communications subcommittee and the Regional Council for approval on May 5, 2005. These procedures would allow projects from the second and third years of the RTIP to move forward if additional funding becomes available. Caltrans has indicated that, once approved by the SCAG Regional Council, they will review and approve these procedures so they are in place by June 1<sup>st</sup>. This action would facilitate the programming of additional obligation authority that will become available on that date. Ty Schuiling (SANBAG) mentioned that Calls for Projects (CFP) come in 2 forms: competitive bidding for newly available funding; and the regular RTIP process. He would welcome the opportunity to work with SCAG on language for the document that more clearly makes this distinction. Sandra Balmir (FHWA) requested clarification of Step 3 of the report regarding CTC's amending the RTIP to reflect projects that were advanced in this process. Ms Ayala responded that the RTIP would need to be amended so that everyone knows the project had been delivered in advance. Ms Balmir asserted that the language in Step 3 indicates the CTC's amend the RTIP, and according to federal regulations, only SCAG can amend the RTIP. Step 3 should read "SCAG amends the RTIP".

Ms Ayala directed attention to a second document describing the RTIP amendment approval procedure, which proposes to streamline the approval process for certain types of administrative amendments. Jean Mazur (FHWA) asked what level of conformity documentation is required for SCAG approved amendments. Ted Harris (SCAG) answered that this type of amendment would have no effect on regional emissions analysis and a letter from Mark Pisano would be provided certifying compliance with conformity requirements. Ms Mazur (FHWA) mentioned she would favor the development of a statewide standard for amendment approvals and that the upcoming Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting might be a good forum for further discussion of the topic.

## **6.2 RTP Update (Sina Zarifi, SCAG)**

Sina Zarifi (SCAG) presented an update on the 2004 RTP, stating that SCAG staff are moving forward on the triennial April, 2007 timeline for development of the 2007 RTP, while still being prepared for any possible changes.

## **6.3 EPA PM 2.5 Guidance Update (Dave Jesson, US EPA)**

Dave Jesson (EPA) reported that the PM 2.5 Implementation Rule will be out by June, 2005 and Phase 2 of the 8-Hour Rule will be released by mid to late summer of this year. The Final PM2.5 Rule will be released by the end of 2005. Arnie Sherwood (ITS/UCB) asked if there would be any revisions regarding retrained dust. Mr Jesson responded that would not happen for awhile.

## **6.4 2007 AQMP Update (Eyvonne Sells, SCAQMD)**

Eyvonne Sells (SCAQMD) provided an update of the 2007 AQMP development process, reporting that preliminary modeling was now in progress. Ty Schuiling asked when the AQMP Working Group would meet. Ms Sells responded that the group would convene in Fall, 2005. Sandra Balmir (FHWA) asked who was preparing the baseline inventory. Ms Sells responded that the modeling groups at SCAQMD and SCAG were working on that. Carla Walecka (TCA) asked if the 2004 RTP would be the baseline document for the 2007 AQMP. Ms Sells replied that it would be.

## **6.5 Reauthorization Update (Jean Mazur, FHWA)**

Jean Mazur (FHWA) had nothing to report regarding federal reauthorization legislation.

## **6.6 NEPA Update (Jean Mazur, FHWA)**

Jean Mazur (FHWA) provided an update on NEPA documentation issues. Ms Mazur indicated that projects that are undergoing NEPA study should be included in the RTIP for informational purposes in order for federal action to be taken. Mike Brady (Caltrans) mentioned that auxiliary lanes are not exempt from the conformity process and that a Caltrans memo to this effect will be emailed to members of the group. Ms Mazur reported that the new 8-hour ozone and PM 2.5 designations should be reflected in NEPA documents. She mentioned that while PM 2.5 hot spot analysis is not yet in place, project sponsors should include it in the NEPA document.

#### **6.7 TCM Monitoring Process (Ted Harris/Mike Gainor, SCAG)**

Ted Harris (SCAG) discussed the difference between committed and potential TCM projects and the need to develop long term strategies for implementing and monitoring TCM's in addition to the requirements of the operative SIP. There are more than 300 projects in the 2004 RTIP that are currently classified as TCMs. TCMs are projects developed specifically to improve air quality and include HOV, transit/non-motorized, TDM, or ITS projects. Mr Harris mentioned several areas where SCAG is implementing improvements to the timely implementation reporting process, including detailed project completion date analysis, using the new RTIP database as a TCM management tool, and improved project substitution guidance. Mike Gainor (SCAG) provided a memo describing the TCM Implementation Process, and discussed the current and planned procedures for developing the Timely Implementation report. Eyvonne Sells (SCAQMD) the asked why the 1994 SIP was to be used when the 2003 SIP is available. Mr Harris responded that 2003 SIP has not yet been approved. Sandra Balmir (FHWA) asked when the next TCM Work Group meeting will be held. Ty Schuiling (SANBAG) suggested that it be scheduled after the TCM project analysis is completed. Mr Harris responded that the development of performance outcome based TCM project analysis based on air quality benefits could require multiple TCM meetings. He also mentioned that development of language in the 2007 SIP could allow for more flexibility in TCM designations. Ms Sells asked if there was a procedure to replace TCM projects with composite project features that are rejected. Mr Harris responded that substitution would be used. Mike Brady (Caltrans) suggested that more details on project splitting be discussed.

#### **6.8 Information Sharing (Group Discussion)**

Mike Brady (Caltrans) reminded members that the Statewide Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at MTC. Arnie Sherwood (ITS/UCB) suggested that the auxiliary lane issue be put on the agenda for the statewide meeting. Paul Fagan (Caltrans) reported that the Caltrans auxiliary lane memo is included.

#### **4.0 CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Ty Schuiling (SANBAG) presented a plaque to former Chair Doug Kim (MTA) for his service to the Transportation Conformity Working Group.

#### **7.0 COMMENT PERIOD**

Chair Ty Schuling (SANBAG) reminded members of the NEPA conference to be held on Monday and Tuesday, May 2-3 at UCI.

#### **8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00 Noon.





**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CALIFORNIA DIVISION

650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100

Sacramento, CA. 95814

May 12, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO

HDA-CA

Document # S47218

Mr. Mark Pisano, Executive Officer  
Southern California Association of Governments  
818 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Pisano:

SUBJECT: 8-Hour Ozone Standard Conformity Determination for SCAG's 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (*Destination 2030*) and 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have completed our review of the 8-hour ozone conformity determination for the Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG's) 2004 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) (*Destination 2030*) and the 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Effective June 15, 2004, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated areas as nonattainment for the new 8-hour ozone standard. SCAG performed the conformity determination to demonstrate conformity of the RTP and RTIP for the new ozone standard.

The SCAG made the 8-hour conformity determination for the 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP on March 3, 2005 (Resolution 05-461-1). The conformity analysis submitted to the FHWA/FTA by SCAG indicates that all air quality conformity requirements have been met, including those for the 8-hour ozone standard. Based on our review, we find that the 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP conform to the applicable state implementation plan (SIP) in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93. In accordance with the July 15, 2004, *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX*, the FTA has concurred with this conformity determination. Additionally, this approval was made after consultation with the EPA, Region 9 office, pursuant to the Transportation Conformity Rule.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 93.102(d), this conformity determination fulfills the requirement that areas designated nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone standard complete a conformity determination by June 15, 2005. This conformity determination also ends the transportation conformity lapse in the Searles Valley planning area. The FHWA and the FTA originally found the RTP and 2004 RTIP to conform to the applicable SIP on June 7, 2004, and October 4, 2004, respectively. This conformity determination does not re-start the three-year clock for the RTP or RTIP (40 CFR 93.104(b)(3) and (c)(3)) since SCAG relied on previous regional emissions analyses for portions of the conformity determination.





In accordance with the above MOU, this letter constitutes the FHWA and the FTA's joint air quality conformity determination for the SCAG's 2004 RTP and 2004 RTIP. If you have any questions pertaining to this conformity determination, please contact Jean Mazur, of the FHWA, at (916) 498-5732.

Sincerely,

*/s/ K. Sue Kiser*

For  
Gene K. Fong  
Division Administrator

cc: (e-mail)  
Ted Harris, SCAG  
Brian Smith, Caltrans  
Sharon Scherzinger, Caltrans  
Rachel Falsetti, Caltrans  
Mike Brady, Caltrans  
Dennis Wade, CARB  
Karina O'Connor, EPA  
Ted Matley, FTA  
S.Grace Balmir, FHWA

Jmazur/jf